



King County

Department of Community and Human Services

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Regional Human Services Levy Oversight Board (RHSLOB)

Meeting Summary

February 16, 2011, 2-4 p.m.

Renton King County Library

100 Mill Ave., S., Renton

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Kathy Brasch at 2:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Kathy Brasch, Kathy Hadaller, Loran Lichty, Edith Loyer Nelson, David Ramsay, Kate Slaminko

Board Members Excused/Absent: Dorry Elias-Garcia, Donald Moreland

County Staff Present: Joel Estey, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS); Debora Gay, DCHS; Laird Heia, DCHS; Jon Hoskins, DCHS; Anna Markee, DCHS

Guests: Doug Hoople

Call to Order/Roll Call/Introductions

Kathy Brasch welcomed new board members David Ramsay and Kate Slaminko. New board member Donald Moreland was unable to make this meeting but will be at future meetings. Kathy reviewed the role of board members and discussed highlights of what the board has been involved in.

Review of Meeting Summary

The January 19, 2011 RHSLOB meeting summary was approved as written.

Levy Renewal Recommendations

Debora Gay summarized the current levy renewal timeline, Levy steering committee participants, the flow of meetings and the feedback process in order to have board recommendations to provide to the Executive in April.

Debora asked board members four questions and facilitated the discussion:

1. What have been the levy's greatest accomplishments?

2. Should the levy remain at a 50/50 split between Veterans and Human Services?
3. Should the Strategy/Activity structure be retained basically as it is?
4. What changes in the funding environment should be considered?

A summary of the board's responses is noted below in the order the questions were asked. Where possible, items are grouped according to subject area.

What have been the Levy's greatest accomplishments?

Supporting families

- Programs like Healthy Start will help families for years to come.

Geographic distribution of funds

- Prior to the levy the bulk of housing and support services were focused in downtown Seattle. Thanks to the levy services are now available in other locations, particularly South King County (SKC).

Improved coordination and collaboration with the Ten-Year Plan

- The Ten-Year Plan's Housing First model has proven successful and levy-funded housing programs have also documented savings.
- Collaborative funding opportunities have increased the number of housing units providers can develop.

Improved services to immigrant and refugee populations

- The Cultural Navigator and Play and Learn programs provide significant, culturally appropriate services to the growing number of immigrant and refugees in King County.

Improved outreach work

- Presentations to local cities and community groups have been very successful in communicating the work of the levy to the citizens of King County.

Should the Levy remain at a 50/50 split between Veteran and Human Services? If not, what?

Yes. In the current economic climate, it is important to maintain the status quo.

Should the Strategy/Activity structure be retained basically as it is? If not, what?

Essentially yes, but the following suggestions were discussed:

- Where possible, help to replace lost funding for existing programs.
- Provide housing and services for youth aged 18 – 25 year old aging out of foster care.
- Increase collaboration with faith-based non-profits.

What changes in the funding environment should be considered?

It was suggested that more attention be paid to equity in the geographic distribution of levy resources. While members felt this was desirable, they preferred not imposing a formula approach. As one member stated, “We are one King County and are all in this together”.

Chair’s Report – Kathy Brasch

- Kathy welcomed the new board members.
- Dorry Elias-Garcia has a scheduling challenge with the RHSLOB meeting time. Board members are willing to look at other time alternatives. Staff will ask Dorry for several times that will fit with her schedule and provide that information to board members to determine if there is a better time that works for everyone. **King County Staff Report – Laird Heia, DCHS**
- Janna Wilson and Rachel Quinn, PHSKC, will present the PHISI work plan to the boards in March.
- The 2010 Annual Report is underway. The Program Managers have completed their statistical reports and are finalizing narrative reports. Preliminary design ideas include a new section on “life of levy” to provide more than a one-year view of levy accomplishments. The letter from board chairs is in development and will be shared as soon as it is available.
- The Evaluation unit is updating last year’s evaluation report which will be available mid-year. This report will include 2010 data plus life of levy information.
- The 2010 Capital Awards were announced. Updated spreadsheets were made available to the board members.

Old Business - None

New Business

- The Strategy 2 briefing was held on February 2. The meeting summary will be available soon.

Petitions/Communications (Public Comment)

- Doug Hoople is the new chair of the Veterans Citizen Levy Oversight Board and Gary Kingsbury is the new vice-chair.
- The Strategy One briefing held at Bellevue City Hall on February 10 was televised and will be available on cable TV in the near future. KCTV will also be airing it once the final editing has been completed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.